

Congressional Record

United States of America

Proceedings and debates of the 107^{tb} congress, second session

Vol. 148

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2002

No. 124

Senate

The Senate met at 9:15 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JACK REED, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Dear God, our hearts are often restless; we long to rest in You. We feel an inner emptiness only You can fill, a hunger only You can satisfy, a thirst only You can quench. All our needs are small in comparison to our deepest need for You. No human love can fulfill our yearning for Your grace. No position can satisfy our quest for significance. No achievement can substitute for Your acceptance. Our relationship with You is ultimately all that counts. There is no joy greater than knowing You, no peace more lasting than Your shalom in our souls, no power more energizing than Your enabling Spirit empowering us. This is the day You have made for us to enjoy and to serve You. Grant us the greatness of seeking Your best for our Nation and working together as patriots. You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JACK REED led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD.)

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

President pro Tempore, Washington, DC, September 26, 2002. To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rues of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable Jack Reed, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD, President pro tempore.

Mr. REED thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Prior to the Chair announcing morning business time, I would advise the Senate that we are going to be in a period of morning business until 11:15. At that time, we will resume consideration of the Homeland Security Act. Cloture was filed on the Gramm-Miller amendment to homeland security. Senators have until 1 p.m. to file first-degree amendments.

Senator DASCHLE and I, in private conversations, have indicated to the minority that we would be willing to move this vote to today. Under the rules, it is tomorrow. We would be willing to have the vote today. We are concerned, I am concerned, and we have been told by Senators on the other side, they have 30 speakers on this amendment. As people who know how the Senate works, that is a big flag for "we are stalling."

As I indicated, we will at the appropriate time ask that the vote be moved up until today. If they are serious about this legislation, this should indicate their seriousness

When the Chair moves to morning business today, I ask unanimous consent, on the Democratic side, Senator BINGAMAN be recognized for 10 minutes and Senator Leahy for 15 minutes. Senator BINGAMAN, of course, is chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee and Senator Leahy is chairman of the Judiciary Committee. Next is Senator Johnson for 10 minutes and Senator Dorgan after that for 20 minutes. I ask unanimous consent for that order.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 11:15 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each. Under the previous order, the first half of the time will be under the control of the majority leader or his designee. Pursuant to the order, the Senator from New Mexico is recognized.

THE ECONOMY AND IRAQ

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I appreciate the opportunity to speak. I want to address a growing disconnect that I detect between what I am hearing in my home State of New Mexico and much of what I am hearing and reading here in Washington, DC. Frankly, I begin to worry when we are talking about one thing in Washington while the people we represent at home are talking about other things, or talking about them in different ways—in coffee klatsches, in barber shops, in various settings.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

